



Sierra Club Bulletin

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CLUB DIRECTORS RE-ELECTED

At the annual election held on April 11th, the judges of election found that the directors of the Club who served during the past year were all re-elected for the ensuing year: Herbert S. Adair, William Frederic Badé, Phil S. Bernays, William E. Colby, Ernest Dawson, Francis P. Farquhar, Walter L. Huber, J. N. LeConte, Duncan McDuffie, Marion R. Parsons, Robert M. Price, Chester H. Rowell, Clair S. Tappaan, Payson J. Treat, W. H. Wright. The regular organization meeting of the Board will be held in the Club Rooms, San Francisco, Saturday morning, May 2, 1931, at ten o'clock.

VERNON BAILEY WILL ACCOMPANY CLUB ON SUMMER OUTING

In reply to an invitation to accompany the Sierra Club outing party the summer of 1931, the following letters have been received from Mr. Vernon Bailey, Chief Field Naturalist, of the U. S. Biological Survey, who was with the club on the Yellowstone outing of 1926:

January 17, 1931

Dear Mr. Colby:

Your letter of Jan. 9 warms my heart to the tips of my toes. There is nothing I should enjoy so much as another outing with the old friends and new of the Sierra Club, and I haven't been in the Yosemite and Tuolumne country since I was there with dear old John Muir and Dr. Merriam in 1900.

Unless some unforeseen emergency calls me to other fields there seems no reason why I should not join you for the outing in July and August. Let's say I will be with you if possible, and I will try to make it possible. That seems about all I can promise now.

I am still young and able bodied and would not need a saddle horse. My interest in outdoor life has not grown less and the very thought of such a trip stirs my blood.

March 17, 1931

I think there will be no doubt of my being able to join your outing in July. I am looking forward to it as one of my greatest pleasures as well as the very best work I can do in helping such an audience to even a little better understanding of our native wild life.

Sincerely yours,

VERNON BAILEY.

RHODODENDRONS FROM CHINA AND TIBET

To horticulturalists and to readers of the National Geographic Magazine, Joseph F. Rock will need no introduction. Mr. Rock is famous the world over as a collector of botanical specimens. From his home in Liking, Yunnan, China, he has recently sent a letter offering his services to the University of California. This offer has particular significance with respect to the new Botanic

Gardens of the University of California, now located in the upper end of Strawberry Canyon, for Mr. Rock proposes to collect for the University thousands of seeds and herbarium specimens of rhododendrons and other ornamental plants. The regions to be traversed will be those described by Cox, of *The New Flora and Silva*, as "north of the Yangste in the mountains back of Wilson's Country where rhododendrons and other shrubs collected by the late ('Chinese') Wilson are still recognized as being both the pick of the bunch and the hardest."

Mr. Rock writes: "I would propose to comb thoroughly the Salwin-Irrawaddy Divide. Next to the Zayul, this watershed is probably the very richest in rhododendrons. We would also work the vast Mekong Divide up into southeastern Tibet; the unexplored Malaski Land, which lies between Muli and Litang; the as yet unvisited Nyato Kawalori Range through which the Yalung has cut its way south of Kanze and lastly, explore what would undoubtedly prove to be the richest region of all, the Zayul Range, the country of the wild Pomed, in southeastern Tibet, west of Tsarung and north of Assam. . . . It will be a grand piece of exploration not only botanically but also geographically."

Financial support for the proposed expedition must be raised by subscription from private individuals and perhaps, as in England, from enthusiastic garden clubs. As Mr. Rock asks no remuneration for his services and gratuitously offers his extensive equipment, only \$6,000 will be needed to defray the expenses of the first year's expedition including the cost of shipping to the University the seeds and specimens collected.

Mr. Rock's offer will, of necessity, remain open for only a few months, and it is hoped that among flower enthusiasts and other nature lovers, there will be some able to lend tangible assistance to the expedition. Anyone wishing further information should communicate with Dr. E. G. Vandevere, 135 Edgewood Road, San Francisco.

JESSE B. AGNEW, 1863-1931

Jesse B. Agnew, known to many members of the Sierra Club through his participation in the High Sierra outings and through his cordial hospitality at his summer home at Horse Corral Meadow, passed away at Visalia on April 2, 1931. Mr. Agnew was a life member of the Sierra Club and took an active interest in its objects. In 1924 he donated to the Club a tract of 80 acres in the heart of Kings River Cañon. He loved the Sierra and knew it from end to end, but his deepest love was for the region round about Kings River Cañon. He traveled widely in all parts of the world, and readers of the Sierra Club Bulletin will recall his article in the 1927 number, "Ducking Trails Around the World." Jesse Agnew was born in Iowa, in 1863. His parents brought him to California in 1873 and he grew up in the Santa Clara Valley. From 1883 to 1891 he worked for D. K. Zumwalt, in Tulare County, and during that time and during his subsequent partnership with Zumwalt he acquired an interest in a number of tracts of land in the Kings River region. From 1891 to 1920 he was engaged in the business of growing vegetable seeds. His knowledge of this business was world-wide and he became a foremost authority. In 1889 he married Ida Young, of Visalia. She passed away in 1923. In 1925 Mr. Agnew married Wilma E. Casebeer, of San Diego, who survives him.

CHARLES E. FAY, DEAN OF AMERICAN MOUNTAINEERS

Professor Charles E. Fay, one of the founders of the Appalachian Mountain Club, passed away January 25, 1931, at the age of eighty-four years. He was for sixty years a member of the faculty of Tufts College, in Massachusetts, retiring as professor of languages in 1927. During the latter part of his life he was easily the best known American mountaineer, acquiring fame through his climbs and explorations in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks and through his contributions to mountaineering literature. It is extraordinary that his activity in climbing did not begin until after he was fifty years of age. Between 1895 and 1904 he made first ascents of some of the principal Canadian peaks, as, for instance: Mounts Lefroy, Victoria, Hector, Dawson, Goodsir. It was very largely due to his enthusiasm that American mountaineers first became acquainted with this Canadian climbing field. Mount Fay, in the Canadian Rockies, was named in his honor. He was a contributor to the very first number of *Appalachia*, the publication of the Appalachian Mountain

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Club, and was its editor for nearly half a century. He was one of the founders of the American Alpine Club, in 1902, and was its first president. He was widely known among mountaineers in other parts of the world, corresponding with them and assisting them in their expeditions in American mountain regions. He greatly assisted the Duke of the Abruzzi in preparations for his climb of Mount St. Elias. In 1907 he represented American mountaineering organizations at the fiftieth anniversary of the Alpine Club, in London, and in 1920 at the International Alpine Congress, at Monaco.

OUTINGS OF OTHER CLUBS

The Alpine Club of Canada will hold its twenty-sixth annual camp July 20 to August 3, 1931, in Prospector's Valley in Kootenay National Park—a main camp to be established about three miles from the head of the valley beside Tokumm Creek, with auxiliary camps on the southern slope of Ten Peaks range and at Lake O'Hara. Very fine climbing can be had from these camps; in addition there are a number of good one- and two-day expeditions.

The Mountaineers of Seattle are planning to hold their twenty-fifth annual outing in Mount Garibaldi Park, British Columbia, July 26 to August 10, 1931. A permanent camp will be established in Black Tusk Meadows. This region of great interest was visited by the Mountaineers once before, in 1923.

The Mazamas of Portland have decided to conduct their 1931 outing into the Willowa Mountain country, a beautiful and rugged region, from July 18th to August 2nd.

AN ASCENT OF TELESCOPE PEAK

On March 29th Dick Jones and I climbed Telescope Peak (11,045') overlooking Death Valley. It is said to have a greater rise than any other peak in the United States. According to Mr. Chalfant's book on Death Valley, it was named and climbed by a W. T. Henderson in 1860. I was interested to see a record left by two members of the Wheeler Survey in 1875, still in fine condition. We also saw the record of Neill Wilson and party who climbed the peak from Death Valley in 1927. About sixty have climbed the peak in the past five years. The best way to climb Telescope Peak is to follow the ridge from the head of Wildrose Canyon and over Mount Baldy, although many ascents have been made from the abandoned city of Panamint. There are no special mountaineering difficulties except a little wind-glazed snow near the summit in the winter months. We also visited Bad Water (—310 ft.) unofficially the lowest point in the country; Titus Canyon, an unusual gorge; and Magruder Mountain, an easily climbed peak near Lida, Nevada.—GLEN DAWSON.

MAP COMMITTEE TO RECORD TRAIL CHANGES

Because of the many changes in trails throughout the Sierra during recent years it seems desirable to have a committee of the Sierra Club to keep track of such changes for the purpose of revising maps. Accordingly, the president of the Club has appointed W. S. Solari chairman of the Committee on Maps, other members to be added later. Members of the Club, and all others who may wish to coöperate, are requested to send to Mr. Solari, care of The Sierra Club, 402 Mills Building, San Francisco, whatever information they may have as to new trails not shown on U. S. Geological Survey maps or errors in trail routes as shown on the maps. It would be especially helpful if this information could be sent in accurately marked on U. S. G. S. maps. All information received will be made accessible in the rooms of the Sierra Club for the use of members and others who may be interested. The data will also be supplied to the Government department concerned so that the maps may eventually be brought up to date.

SECRETARY'S REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP FOR THE YEAR 1930

To the Members of the Sierra Club:

During the year 1930 there were 307 new members admitted to membership in the Club; 192 members were dropped from the list in accordance with the by-laws because of non-payment

of dues, 82 resigned, and there were 22 deaths. The total membership at the beginning of the year 1931 was 2537, as compared with 2526 at the beginning of 1930.

WM. E. COLBY, *Secretary.*

LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

CLARK UNIVERSITY, WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 14, 1931

My dear Mr. Colby:

The action which the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club have taken in electing me to life membership is most sincerely appreciated. I have long wanted to be a member of the Club, and if I have now qualified I am naturally very much pleased. More than membership, however, I treasure the friendships with so many of your officers and members, and I treasure the associations which we have all had in the high Sierra. That magnificent range of mountains serves as a common bond of interest and of inspiration to all of us. I know of nothing that I would rather do than to make another expedition through that wonderful range of mountains.

With kindest regards to you, and best wishes to all who are promoting a love for the Sierra, I am

Cordially yours,

WALLACE W. ATWOOD.

STATE PARK PROGRESS

As a result of action taken recently by the State Park Commission, one mile of beach in southern California, 2880 acres of the finest redwood forest in the Bull Creek region, and 200 acres of park lands on Lake Tahoe will be added to the California state park system.

The beach parks acquired in southern California comprise almost a mile of the most popular ocean frontage just north of Santa Monica, including the Gillis property and the Los Angeles county beach.

Two magnificent groves of giant redwoods, one at Canoe Creek on the South Fork of the Eel River and another comprising the Metropolitan Lumber Company holdings on Bull Creek, both in Humboldt County, are being acquired by this action. The Canoe Creek tract which is located about fifty miles south of Eureka on the Redwood Highway is to be known as the Garden Club of America Redwood Grove, half of its purchase price having been donated to the state by members of the Garden Club of America which carried on a campaign for funds throughout the United States. A large portion of the money thus contributed came from individuals and garden clubs outside of California. The Metropolitan tract on Bull Creek, located about four miles west of Dyerville, contains the celebrated tree of the Bull Creek region, one of the largest in the redwood belt, and the well-known "Flat-Iron Tree," as well as one of the heaviest stands of redwood timber in existence. In connection with the acquisition of the timber holdings of the Metropolitan Lumber Company, the redwood forest at Jordan Creek, Humboldt County, is to be acquired later on, a fund toward the purchase of this grove having been raised by the California Federation of Women's Clubs. Negotiations for the purchase of these redwoods have been completed by the State Park Commission and the Save-the-Redwoods League.

The Tahoe land involves an addition to the Duane L. Bliss Memorial Park at Rubicon Point, the State Park Commission having recently completed arrangements for the acquisition of what is known as the Lester property with 1530 feet of the finest sandy bathing beach on the lake.



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